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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/022,243	12/20/2001	Beat Guggisberg	004501-629	7155

7590 10/14/2003

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EXAMINER

HA, NGUYEN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2831

DATE MAILED: 10/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/022,243

Applicant(s)

GUGGISBERG ET AL.

Examiner

Nguyen T Ha

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/20/2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 12/20/2001 fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because it does not include the 1449 IDS form. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicant is advised that the date of any re-submission of any item of information contained in this information disclosure statement or the submission of any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the statement, including all certification requirements for statements under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609 ¶ C(1).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hashimoto et al. (U.S. 6,064,578).

Regarding claim 1, Hashimoto et al. disclose a capacitor for a power semiconductor module (figures 23 & 24, element 1b), which has a capacitor housing (8)

and pole bushings/terminals (figures 23 & 24) from the interior of the capacitor housing to the exterior, with a first pole bushing/terminal forming a negative pole (column 30, lines 23-27) and a second pole bushing/terminal forming a positive pole (column 30, lines 23-27), wherein the pole bushings are each integral (figure 23), and in that connecting ends of the pole bushing/terminals are each designed such that they can be connected to connecting terminals on the power semiconductor module (figure 23).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 2-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto et al. (U.S 6,064,578) in view of Irikura (U.S 4,510,554).

Regarding claim 2, Hashimoto et al. disclose all the limitations discussed above with respect to claim 1, except for the pole bushing/terminal having a profile in the form of a plate.

Irikura teaches capacitor terminals in the form of a plate (figures 7-12, elements 13 & 15).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the Irikura terminal plate design for the bushings/terminals of Hashimoto in order to increase the surface area at the connection between the capacitor and semiconductor module.

Regarding claim 3, Hashimoto et al. disclose all the limitations discussed above with respect to claim 1, except for the connecting ends being designed such that they can be plugged in.

Irikura teaches the terminals ends being able to be plugged in (figures 7-12, elements 13 & 15).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the Irikura connecting ends in Hashimoto in order to facilitate the connection between the capacitor and semiconductor module.

Regarding claim 4, the modified of Hashimoto et al. show all of the claimed limitations with respect to claims 1 and 3 above. **Irikura further teaches** the connecting ends being essentially fork-shaped (figures 7-12), with each connecting end essentially forming a U-shape (figures 7-12).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 5-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With respect to claim 5, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a capacitor wherein each pole bushing has at least one connecting guide with a connecting end ending at it, and in that a part of the pole bushings which emerges from the capacitor housing in each case forms a first angle with the connecting guide of the respective pole bushing.

Citation Relevant of Prior Art

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Chishima discloses a flat cable connector and method for assembling flat cable and a connector housing.

b. Brown et al. disclose an electronic package with integrated distributed decoupling capacitor.

c. Uemura et al disclose a noise filter and terminal structure therefor.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nguyen T Ha whose telephone number is 703-308-6023. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 6:00PM.

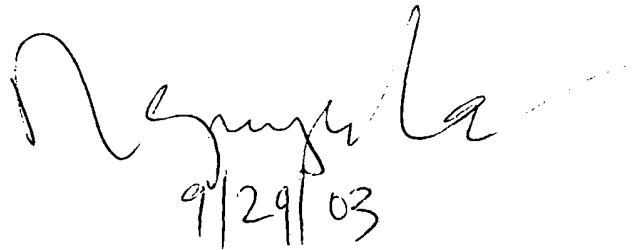
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 703-308-3682. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Nguyen T. Ha
September 29, 2003



9/29/03